I. *Remarks on the new Comet. In a Letter from* William Herſchel, *LLD. F. R. S. to* Charles Blagden, *M. D. Sec. R. S.*

Read Nov. 16, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

AS my Siſter's letter of the 2d of Auguſt, relative to the comet diſcovered by her, has had the honour of being communicated to the Royal Society, I beg leave to add the following remarks upon it.

The track of the parallel not being taken at the time of her obſervations, I have endeavoured to recover it by means of directing the ſame inſtrument which was uſed on this occaſion towards that part of the heavens where it was placed the 1ſt and 2d of Auguſt. Hence, from the annexed figure (ſee Tab. I. fig. 6.) in which A, B, repreſents a parallel of declination, we may conclude, that the comet was nearly in the ſame meridian with the ſtar *a*; but more north than it by an interval equal to the diſtance of the ſmall ſtar *b* from *a*. This will conſequently give us a pretty good opportunity to aſcertain the comet's place with ſome accuracy.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WILLIAM HERSCHEL.

Slough, near Windſor,
Nov. 15, 1786.

P. S.

Fig. 1.

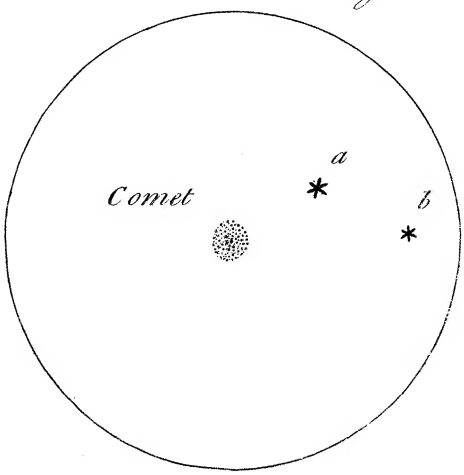


Fig. 2.

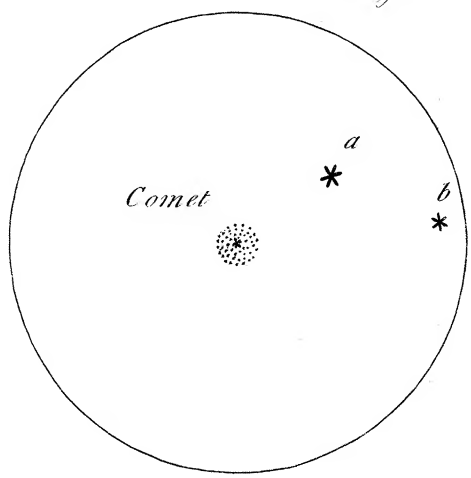


Fig. 4.

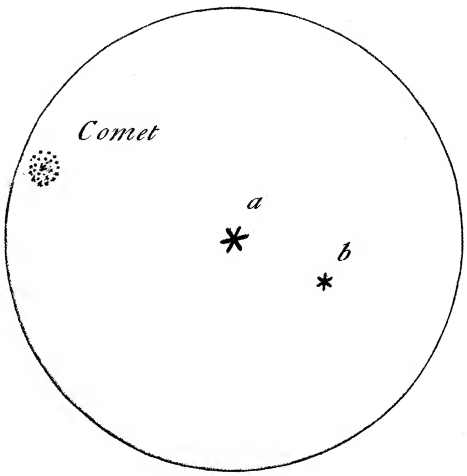


Fig. 5.

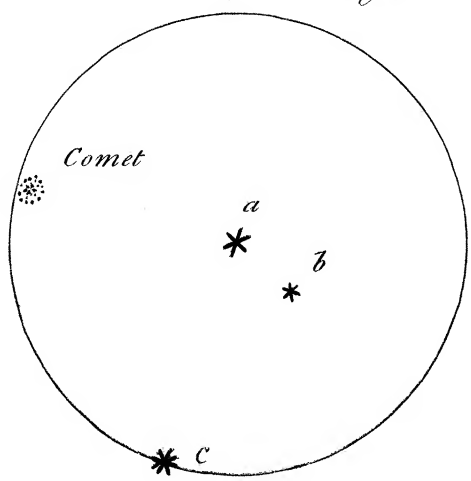


Fig. 3.

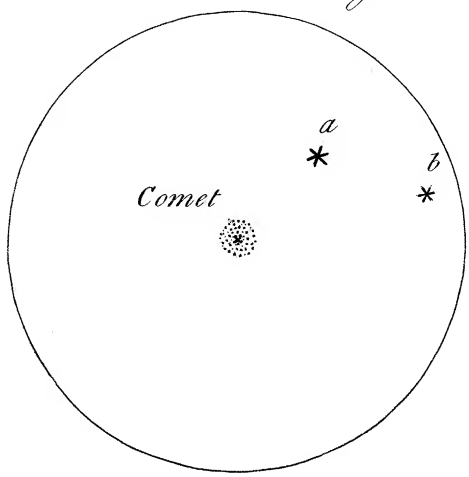
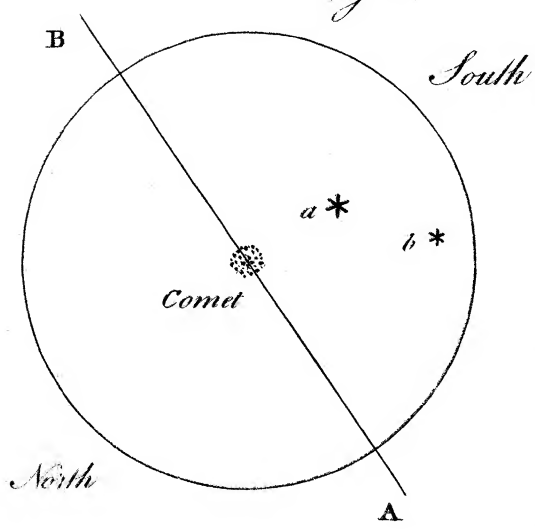


Fig. 6.



Basire Sc.

P. S. The firſt view I had of the comet, after my return from Germany, was the 19th of Auguſt, when with a 10-feet reflector it appeared not much unlike the third nebula of the *Connoiſſance des Temps*, with which it might be very conveniently compared on account of its proximity. It was, however, conſiderably brighter, and ſeemed to have a very imperfect and confuſed kind of gathered light about the middle, which could hardly deſerve the name of a nucleus. It had alſo, beſides a diffuſed coma, a very faint, ſcattered light towards the north following part, extending to about three or four minutes, and loſing itſelf inſenſibly.

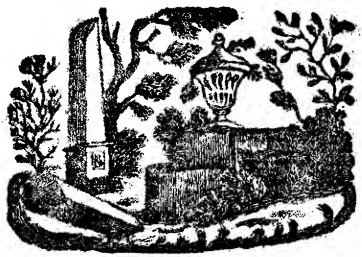


Fig. 1

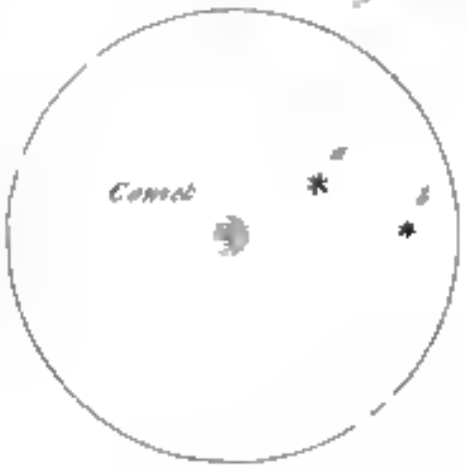


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

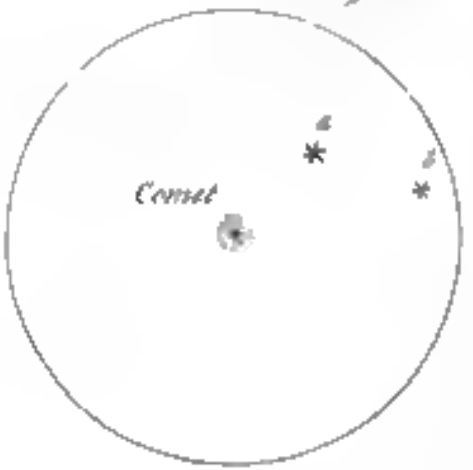


Fig. 4

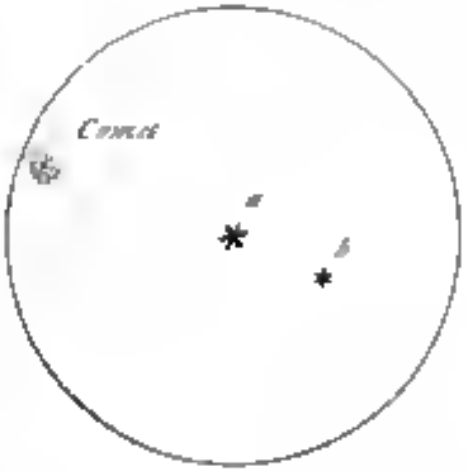


Fig. 5

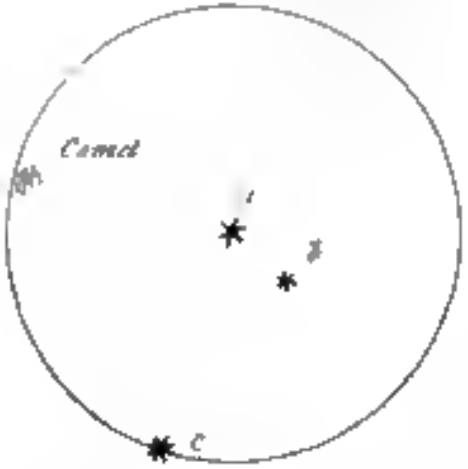
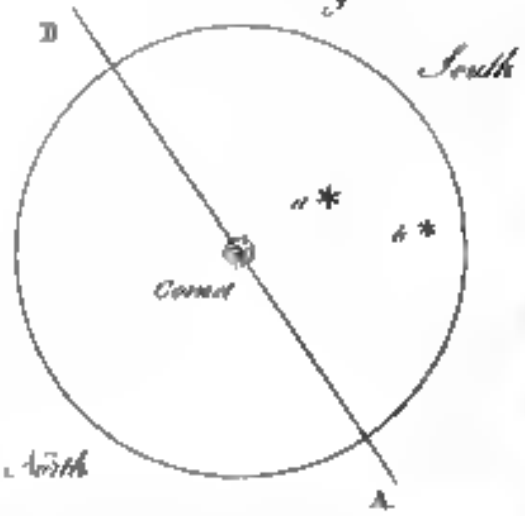



Fig. 6